

# The Morning Astorian.

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## ROOT'S REPORT MADE PUBLIC

Deals Exhaustively With Question of New Possessions.

## CONGRESS MUST DETERMINE

Regards Cuban Control a Trust to be Surrendered to the People When They Are Ready to Receive It.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 1.—Denial as it does with the large questions of insular policy, of army regulations, the future of Cuba and of the campaign in the Philippines, the first annual report of Secretary Root, just made public, is of exceptional interest.

The secretary deals at great length with the problem of insular government. He recalls the fact that the treaty of Paris places in congress alone the determination of the civil representation and political status of the native inhabitants of the territories ceded to the United States.

He assumes that the intention is to give them to the greatest possible extent of individual freedom and self government in accordance with their capacity.

Concerning Cuba, the report says, the control which we are exercising in trust for the people of Cuba should not, and of course, will not, be continued any longer than is necessary to enable them to establish a suitable government to which control shall be transferred.

The secretary deals in a forceful manner with the subject of post exchanges. He expresses his agreement with the construction of the statute on this point, as laid down by the attorney general, and produces statistics from the United States forces at the posts and elsewhere to show that the overwhelming testimony of the army is to the effect that the present regulation has promoted temperance, discipline, morals and the health of the enlisted men, and that in the interest of morality and effective service it should be retained.

Under the head of river and harbor improvements, the secretary, while characterizing estimates as generally meritorious, states that he has felt it necessary in view of the extraordinary appropriations for military purposes to reduce the estimates of the chief of engineers from \$21,506,321 to \$14,993,741.

One of the most important chapters of the report deals with the subject of army re-organization and on this point the secretary makes some most radical recommendations, pointing out the inadequacy of the present system and the insufficiency of the force.

## ANOTHER ISLAND CONTROLLED.

Commander Very, of the Gunboat Castine, in Possession of Zamboanga.

MANILA, Dec. 1.—The steamer Salvador, from Zamboanga, island of Mindanao, which has arrived here, brings details of the occupation of the town by Commander Very, of the United States gunboat Castine. The revolutionists in Mindanao were led by Alvarez and Calixto, who left Luzon some time ago and for the last seven months have been stirring up the people, winning considerable following. The commercial depression and the lack of food resulting from the island blockade set the people against the revolutionists and culminated in the assassination on November 15 of Calixto, a fire brand and the real leader of the revolution, by Midel, mayor of the town of Tetuan.

Midel, under a pretext, secured Calixto's presence in Tetuan and where the mayor's guards were stationed and the latter fired a volley, killing Calixto instantly.

Midel at once repaired to the Castine and arranged with Commander Very for the occupation of Zamboanga. Commander Very asked that Datto Mandi, with 500 of his followers, stationed on a neighboring island, come to Zamboanga.

The following morning Midel raised the American flag over Zamboanga, the insurgents offering no resistance and evacuating the town. The Castine was saluted with 21 guns and Commander Very landed a hundred bluejackets and took possession of the town and fortifications. Datto Mandi's men arrived in the afternoon. They were armed with wooden shields and swords, and were used on picket duty.

Commander Very dispatched the gunboat Manila on Nov. 15 to Jolo to convey troops to reinforce him. A company of the Twenty-third regiment under Captain Nichols arrived on Nov. 17, and two more companies followed them shortly. Mandi's followers then returned home.

Alvarez sought to arrange for a surrender of the arms and artillery pieces.

On the afternoon of Nov. 20, Midel called a meeting of the local chiefs, who formally deposed Alvarez as leader of the revolutionists in the island and elected Midel president of the new insular government established under American sovereignty and control. The chiefs formally requested Commander Very to grant exemption from taxes until the re-establishment of commercial relations, permission to carry arms in the mountains, religious freedom and the power to conduct local governments as they had previously done, which requests, pending the arrival of Brigadier General Bates, the military governor of the district, the commander granted.

Commander Very then effected an apparent reconciliation between Alvarez and Midel and their followers, Alvarez signing a formal resignation of the position of revolutionary leader on Nov. 22, at a point on the coast near the rebel town of Marceles. Alvarez delivered 14 Nordenfolds and Maxim, with ammunition, which were stored on board the Castine. Eight Nordenfolds and Maxim were delivered to the army in Zamboanga as were also over 200 rifles and ammunition. The artillery came into possession of the revolutionists from six Spanish gunboats bought by the army from Spain, which the revolutionists looted before the Americans could get possession.

Alvarez has only a dozen followers left, the remainder of the revolutionists having scattered and returned to their occupations. Commander Very, having started to occupy Zamboanga, is considered to have handled the situation in its many phases with energy and diplomatic skill.

## AMERICAN RIGHTS PROTECTED.

Government Investigation of the Intentions of New San Domingo Administration.

NEW YORK, Dec. 1.—A special to the Herald from Washington, says: Instructions have been sent to Minister Powell, at Port au Prince, directing him to proceed to Santo Domingo and make an investigation to determine the stability of the Jimenez government. The minister will also make representations to General Jimenez to ascertain his intentions with respect to the continuance of the concessions made by the late Heuereux government to the American syndicate which controlled the finances of the island and to other Americans.

Unless such concessions are recognized it is extremely doubtful that this government will recognize President Jimenez's administration. The authorities are determined that the change of government in Santo Domingo shall not prejudice American concessions, and it is in pursuance of this determination that Minister Powell has received the instructions indicated. It is expected the moral effect of the instructions will be sufficient. The republic of Santo Domingo has been financed in Wall street by a syndicate of Americans, known as the Santo Domingo Improvement Company, since 1892. One of the leading spirits of the syndicate is S. M. West. This syndicate collects the customs and distributes the revenues.

## REDUCED REPRESENTATION.

Next Republican National Convention Will not be Attended by so Many Negro Delegates.

NEW YORK, Dec. 1.—In support of an argument made by the Press that the basis of representation in the republican national convention should be changed, that paper publishes a number of opinions received in reply to an effort to poll the national committeemen upon the subject.

United States Senator Hanna and Charles R. Braxton, of Rhode Island, are non-committal.

Henry T. Payne, of Wisconsin, telegraphs at length, protesting against the policy which allows one republican in Mississippi forty times as much voice in naming a candidate as one republican in the state of Illinois. He says it is opportune that this change in representation should be made at the coming republican convention, for the reason that there will be only one candidate for the nomination. He says that it is impossible to bring about the change when several candidates are seeking the nomination.

United States Senator Scott, national committeeman for West Virginia, favors a change. He says that in West Virginia a county receives representation in state conventions in proportion to the republican or democratic vote cast at the previous election, and he thinks the same rule should apply to states represented in a national convention.

L. F. Hubbard, national committeeman for Minnesota, says that the present basis is wrong because Minnesota, which cast 191,501 votes for McKinley, has but eighteen delegates to a national convention, while Alabama, Arkansas, Florida, Georgia, Louisiana, Mississippi and South Carolina altogether cast but 200,076 votes for McKinley, yet they are entitled to an aggregate of 124 delegates.

Frederick S. Gibbs, national committeeman for New York, says that he will vote in favor of a change on the basis of representation at the meeting of the national committee.

## AFRICA STILL REMAINS DARK

War Office Has Not Received Lord Methuen's Casualty List.

## RELATIVES ARE IN SUSPENSE

Speculations as to Progress of Affairs, but Public Growing Impatient at Suppression of Facts.

LONDON, Dec. 2.—4:30 a. m.—Absolute silence has fallen over affairs in South Africa. The war office has not even received Lord Methuen's casualty list.

The public and press hitherto impatient, are beginning to murmur at the apparently needless delay which keeps many families in a state of painful suspense. It is regarded as practically certain that Lord Methuen has been reinforced by a battalion of the Gordon Highlanders, a regiment of cavalry and a battery of artillery and that De Aar is being daily reinforced by troops to hold the lines of communication.

It is supposed that the Natal advance has been delayed by the necessity of getting supplies to Pietermaritzburg, but not a word emanates from any of the various commands.

## MORE TROOPS NEEDED.

English Expert Opinion now Thinks Another Division Should be Sent to Africa.

NEW YORK, Dec. 1.—A dispatch to the Herald from London, says:

The military experts say that more men are clearly needed in all directions. General Methuen's column is still very weak. In Natal, General Clery's relief force is not considered any too large, while General French Gatacre have only small detachments with which to operate in a most difficult country. The fifth division is urgently needed, and the sixth may have to follow.

## LATE HAWAIIAN NEWS.

Portland Transports all Arrived Safely Enroute to Manila—Marconi System of Wireless Telegraphy Adopted.

HONOLULU, Nov. 23, Via Victoria, B. C. Dec. 1.—Contracts have been made for connecting all the islands of the Hawaiian group by the Marconi system of wireless telegraphy. The work is to begin at once. The apparatus is to arrive here by February 1 and the system will be in operation by March 1.

Complete returns from all the island sugar plantations as made to the Hawaiian planters association show that the crop for the year ending September 30 amounted to 282,807 tons, valued at over \$22,500,000. This is an increase of 53,393 tons over the previous year.

The Pennsylvania and Olympia, bringing the Thirty-ninth infantry and part of the Forty-fifth from Portland arrived Nov. 15 and left the same day. During their stay here Sergeant Jones, colored, of the Thirty-ninth, was shot and dangerously wounded while resisting the provost guard.

The Lennox has arrived with horses from Portland.

## THE TRANSPORT MANAUENSE.

Further Confirmation of Her Unfitness to be Sent on the Voyage to Manila.

SAN FRANCISCO, Dec. 1.—Arthur Burns, who was a butcher on the transport Manauense, has returned here from Honolulu, where he left the vessel on account of sickness.

Burns tells a startling tale of the voyage of the transport between this port and Honolulu. He says that 10 men deserted the vessel at Honolulu.

According to Burns the transport leaked three days after leaving port and the condensers broke down. The refrigerating plant entirely collapsed before the vessel reached Honolulu.

He states that the hold was so full of water that the floors of the lower state rooms were awash and that he was compelled to seek a berth in the soldiers' quarters.

## IMPORTANT REBEL SURRENDER.

MANILA, Dec. 2.—1:20 a. m.—General Conon has surrendered 800 officers and men with rifles, several Americans and 76 Spanish prisoners, with the garrison at Bayombong, in the province of Nueva Vizcaya, to Lieutenant Monroe, with 50 men of the Fourth Cavalry.

## ADMINISTRATION IN A HOLE.

European Nations Want an "Open Door" in the Philippines if They Give One in China.

CHICAGO, Dec. 1.—A special to the Tribune from Washington, says: Inquiry among foreign representatives develops the fact that the open door policy of the administration has received something of a check from the European powers, who wish to drive a sharp bargain with respect to the Philippines. They were asked for written assurances that in case of the partition of China they would maintain the open door policy in their respective spheres of influence.

"If we do," they answer in effect, though as yet not officially, "will there also be an open door in the Philippines?"

On an affirmative answer to this question it is said to depend some, if not all, of the desired assurances from the European powers. This has placed the administration in a quandary, so it is said, because promises of an open door policy in the Philippines can not be given at the present time.

Foreign diplomats have learned of the fact that a portion of the report of the insular commission was not published in the published synopsis. The commission, in its investigation of the tariff question as applied to the new possessions, came to the conclusion that when these islands are once brought under the general civil power of the United States internal revenue and customs laws must be applied to them equally with the rest of the country. The report of the commission on this point is in the possession of Secretary Root.

Under the constitutional provision that "all duties, imposts and excises, shall be uniform throughout the United States," the insular commission, in an elaborate brief, citing precedents and decisions, found it would be impossible to prevent the extension of the tariff laws to the Philippines, Puerto Rico and Hawaii. The report holds that if the islands become part of the United States, the period of military occupation must be purely as a war measure.

If military rule in the Philippines is continued indefinitely, or if a protectorate is established, a tariff exclusive to the islands and against the United States, as well as Great Britain, France, Germany and Russia could be applied, but not otherwise. This doctrine may not be held by the administration, but it is part of a strong official report, and the European powers have become aware of the fact.

## M'DANIEL TRIAL BEGUN.

Evidence of His Guilt in Murdering Clara Fitch is Only Circumstantial.

PORTLAND, Dec. 1.—The prosecution and defense showed their hands today in the trial of Frank M'Daniel for the murder of Clara Fitch. The district attorney followed the chain of evidence he relies upon to establish the guilt of the young man, demonstrating what has generally been known—that the evidence is entirely circumstantial.

He foreshadowed several bits of evidence tending to furnish a cause why M'Daniel is said to have wanted Clara Fitch out of the way, which, summarized, are no more than that her condition, as a result of their intimate relations, was approaching the time when her parents must discover it.

The defense will endeavor to prove an alibi.

## PROPOSING SURRENDER.

NEW YORK, Dec. 1.—A dispatch from Manila says: General Lawton is at Bayombong, in the Cagayan valley. He is in telegraphic communication with the insurgents over the wire in their possession, and the commanders of the opposing forces are considering propositions made by telegraph looking to the surrender of the rebels to the Americans.

## ROBERTS NOT TO BE SWORN IN

Excluded from the House Until His Eligibility is Passed On.

## THE PROCEEDURE ADOPTED

No Pre-judgment of Case Intended, But a Full Investigation Resolved on of all Its Various Phases.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 1.—At a conference of about 15 prominent republicans at the capitol tonight it was decided that the eligibility of Representative-Elect Roberts, of Utah, to occupy a seat in the house should be investigated and determined, and that, pending a decision, he should not be permitted to take the oath of office.

This decision was arrived at by those present without a dissenting voice. Representative Taylor, of Ohio, who will have charge of the matter in the house, explained, after the conference had adjourned that this proceeding does not involve any pre-judgment of the case. Irrespective of party, it will afford the members opportunity to vote after a thorough investigation and complete presentation of the case for their consideration. The procedure is to be as follows:

When Roberts appears at the bar of the house to take the oath, objection is to be made upon the ground that he is ineligible. He will then step aside and after other members are sworn in, the member making objection will recite the allegations and offer a resolution for their investigation by a special committee. This will give the house an opportunity to vote in the first instance upon the question of postponing the administration of oath until after the allegations have been investigated.

The resolutions have not been formulated yet, but they will include an investigation of the charge that Roberts' alleged conviction of a violation of the Edmunds act in 1895 renders him ineligible by the terms of that act; whether the fact that he is an avowed polygamist renders him ineligible, and whether the state of Utah, in electing him, has not violated the compact by which she obtained statehood.

## LETTING HANNA DOWN.

He May be Allowed to Collect the Funds for McKinley's Next Campaign.

CLEVELAND, Dec. 1.—It has been suggested that should Hanna decide not to accept the re-appointment as chairman of the republican national committee, that he be made a member of the executive committee having personal charge of the campaign finances.

This would relieve Hanna of the arduous duties devolving upon its chairman and at the same time give the national committee the benefit of his experience and marked success in raising funds.

MILWAUKEE, Dec. 1.—Marcus A. Hanna, chairman of the national republican committee, will not accept another term as national chairman, although he will serve out his present term. This was admitted by Henry C. Payne, the national republican committeeman of Wisconsin, this afternoon.

Mr. Hanna's term expires after the national republican convention which will be held in June.

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